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Allamakee County Conservation Board Minutes May, 2 2023

The Allamakee County Conservation Board met in regular session May 2, 2023 beginning at 1 p.m. at the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center in Lansing, Iowa. Board members who were present were: Jesse Delaney, Jeanie Carrol, Marilyn Clark, Dennis Koenig and Steve Weymiller. Attending from the Allamakee County Conservation Board staff was Ross Geerdes, Erin Cubbon, Brody VanderKolk. Members of the Allamakee County Conservation Foundation were also present during the meeting including Dennis Blocker, Jens Kallevang, Dave Dunklee, and Jim Kerndt.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and the agenda and minutes from the April 4, 2023 regular board meeting were approved with a motion by Clark and a second by Koenig with all members in favor.

There was no public comment.

The Board reviewed and approved claims and revenues with a motion by Clark and a second by Carrol. All in favor.

Director Geerdes gave an update to the board on Mississippi river Flooding. The ACCB has several areas that are currently being impacted. The staff was able to secure infrastructure in place or move it above the level of the river. Damage is expected to be limited to debris and sediment, but will need to be evaluated after and as the river levels recede.

The Director has made contact with 4 potential candidates for the Office Manager/Assistant Naturalist position with two interviews taking place on May 2 and the remaining two interviews taking place on May 4. A job offer is expected to be made to the selected candidate by May 10, 2023.

A material list and cost estimate was reviewed for the Voney Park shelter and concrete. A motion was made by Weymiller and a second was made by Koenig to accept a bid for material cost of \$10,980 from Ashbacher Building Supply and \$5868 for the pouring of the concrete pad by Kelly Concrete. All in favor.

Erin Cubbon, Naturalist informed the board she has begun scheduling programs and field trips as the Naturalist. Her and Director Geerdes are still working together to transition roles. Brody VanderKolk, Operations Supervisor, informed the board that he has been familiarizing himself with all of the parks and has begun mowing for the season.

Informational items presented to the board included: the 2024 membership with the Iowa County Conservation System is due by August 1, 2023 with a cost of \$1,500, Dave Ashe forester with the Iowa DNR has contacted the ACCB about potential timber stand improvement projects at Waterville Pines Park. Information was given to the board on the County vehicle policy. The director reminded the board that the July meeting will be moved from July 4, 2023 to July 11, 2023 because of the county holiday.

The time and date for the next meeting was set for June 6, 2023 at 1 p.m. in the Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center.

With no additional business the meeting was concluded at 1:53 p.m. with a motion by Clark and seconded by Koenig to adjourn. All in favor.